

part of the State, such a course of action, and has resulted in so much embarrassment both to the State and people. The undersigned disclaims any intention in doing so to excite political jealousies or party feeling, well knowing that a few of those associated in politics with him have been instrumental, in despite of the principles they professed to support, in bringing about the present state of things. But whilst he does so, he nevertheless contends that their conduct was antagonistical to the principles of the party to which they were attached, and in harmony with those of their opponents. The time has arrived, when the representatives of the people should speak out. The people demand that there should be no concealment, and they ought to be gratified.

It must be well recollected, and if it be not, the records of the State will show it, that at the time when the party now in the minority of the State, surrendered the control of the finances of the State to their more fortunate opponents, that there was a surplus in the Treasury of \$29,838 64, and a public debt of only \$601,447 80, incurred for laudable and proper objects.

After a period of eleven years' management of the finances of the State, we are compelled to behold a bankrupt treasury; the State involved in an immense debt, portions of which were imprudently and recklessly contracted; a direct tax about to be imposed on the people without the least probability of diminution for many years, acting as it must, as a damper upon the enterprize of the citizen, and as a disheartener of the industrious and frugal. This state of things cannot be other than afflicting to every one who is anxious either for the welfare, prosperity or glory of his State.

Had the counsels of men, (who, in the inflated and deceptive language of the day, were denominated "as men behind the age,") been taken, instead of the present truly appalling state of affairs, our noble State would present to the eye of the world, as she did prior to the year 1828, as industrious, honest and happy people as ever lived. Unfortunately for the good of the State, the counsels of such persons were wholly disregarded, and the statements of interested speculators, feed attorneys and engineers were made the authority for legislative action. The legislative proceedings of this State will show, and it is designed they shall in this report, that from time to time, deceptive statements were made to the legislature with the view of procuring further aid to the various works of Internal Improvement, but more particularly in favor of the